

I CLAIM:

1. A resilient switch contact comprising a unitary conductive body having:

a mounting end portion disposed in a first plane;
5 a central operating portion disposed in a second plane spaced apart from the first plane in a first direction; an intermediate buffer portion interconnecting said mounting end portion to said central operating portion; and

10 first and second support portions spaced apart from each other in a second direction transverse to the first direction and extending from said central operating portion in the first direction toward the first plane.

2. The resilient switch contact as claimed in Claim 1,
15 wherein said intermediate buffer portion includes a bend section extending from said mounting end portion, and a linear extension section extending from said bend section to said central operating portion.

3. The resilient switch contact as claimed in Claim 2,
20 wherein said bend section is inverted U-shaped.

4. The resilient switch contact as claimed in Claim 1,
25 wherein said intermediate buffer portion includes a curved section extending from said mounting end portion in the first direction toward said central operating portion.

5. The resilient switch contact as claimed in Claim 1,
 wherein said central operating portion is formed with

a projection that protrudes in the first direction toward the first plane.

6. The resilient switch contact as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said first and second support portions extend 5 inclinedly from said central operating portion and away from each other.

7. A key switch device comprising:

a circuit board formed with an electrical contact unit; and

10 a unitary conductive body having

a mounting end portion mounted on said circuit board,

15 a central operating portion spaced apart from said electrical contact unit of said circuit board in a first direction,

an intermediate buffer portion interconnecting said mounting end portion to said central operating portion, and

20 first and second support portions spaced apart from each other in a second direction transverse to the first direction and extending from said central operating portion in the first direction toward said circuit board,

25 said central operating portion being operable so as to move from a normal position, where said central operating portion is spaced apart from said electrical contact unit, to a pressed position, where said central

operating portion, said intermediate buffer portion and said first and second support portions deform and where said central operating portion contacts electrically said electrical contact unit,

5 said intermediate buffer portion and said first and second support portions providing a restoring force to move said central operating portion from the pressed position back to the normal position.

10 8. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said intermediate buffer portion includes a bend section extending from said mounting end portion, and a linear extension section extending from said bend section to said central operating portion.

15 9. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 8, wherein said bend section is inverted U-shaped.

10 10. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said intermediate buffer portion includes a curved section extending from said mounting end portion in the first direction toward said central operating portion.

20 11. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said central operating portion is formed with a projection that protrudes in the first direction toward said circuit board and that contacts electrically said electrical contact unit when said central operating portion is in the pressed position.

25 12. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said first and second support portions extend inclinedly

from said central operating portion and away from each other, and have distal ends that are in contact with said circuit board.

13. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 7, wherein
5 said circuit board is further formed with a solder pad
 for mounting said mounting end portion of said conductive
 body thereon, said central operating portion connecting
 electrically said electrical contact unit to said solder
 pad when said central operating portion is in the pressed
10 position.

14. The key switch device as claimed in Claim 7, wherein
 said electrical contact unit includes a pair of
 electrical contacts spaced apart from each other, said
 central operating portion interconnecting electrically
15 said electrical contacts of said electrical contact unit
 when said central operating portion is in the pressed
 position.